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Alabama Business at a Glance

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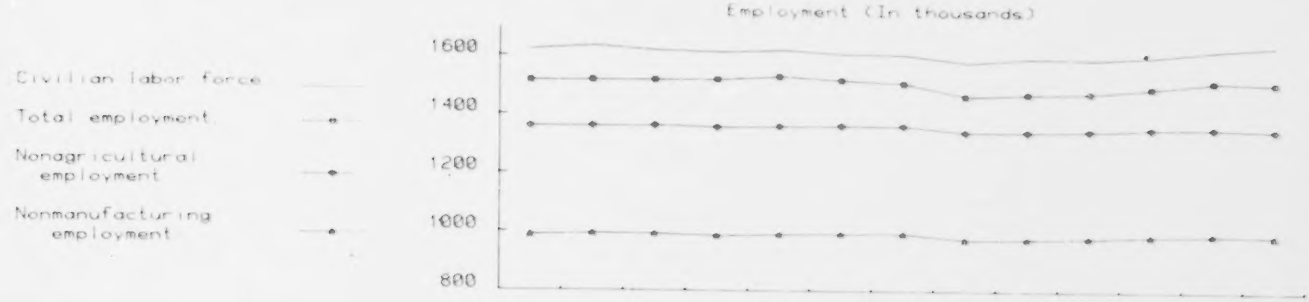

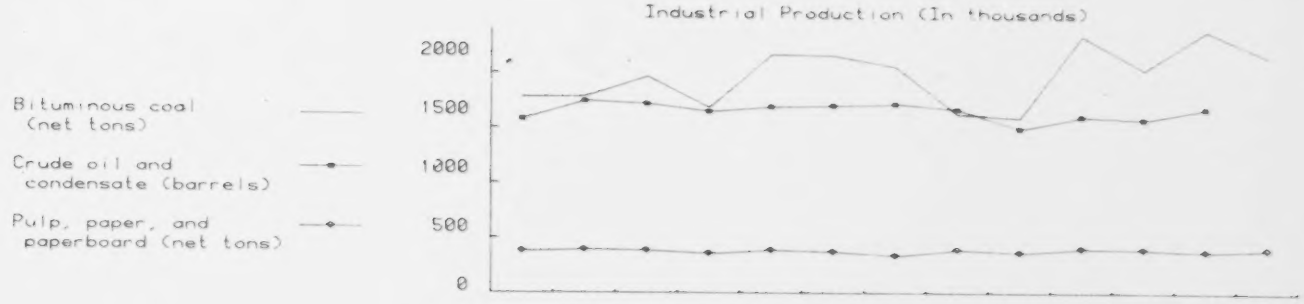

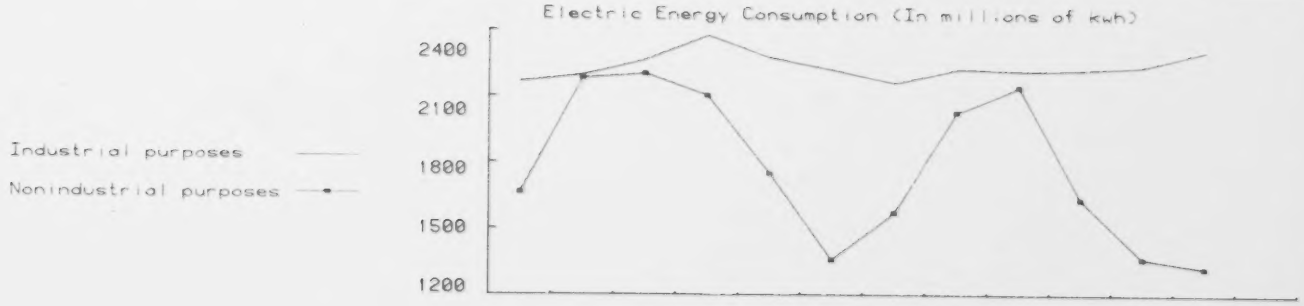

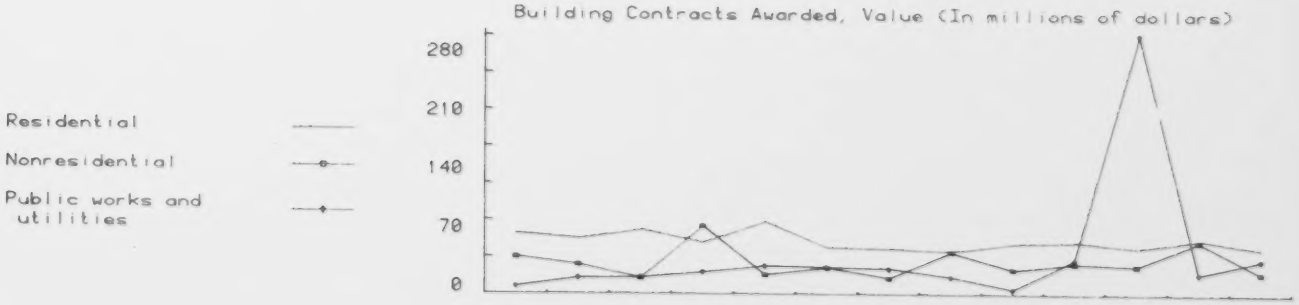

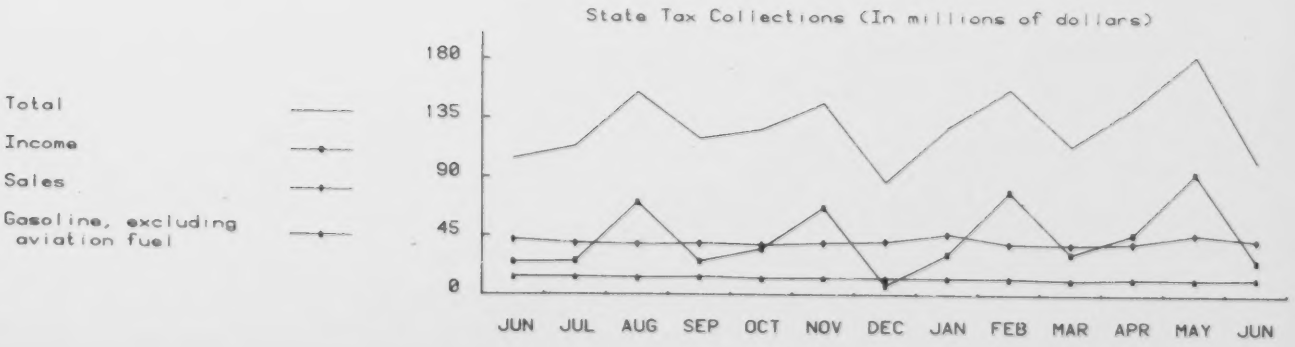

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA

Type of Activity	Annual		1978							1979					
	1977	1978	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	April	May	June
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] (1,000 net tons)	21,220	19,326	1,780	1,784	1,967	1,682	2,171	2,156	2,056	1,625	1,595	2,344	2,034	2,390	2,150
Cement shipments (1,000 net tons)	2,356	2,900	281	268	331	282	291	222	189	170	160	239	275	264	.....
Coke production (1,000 net tons)	4,083	3,670	306	314	319	344	369	369	366	367	360	396	370	392	.....
Cotton consumption (1,000 lbs.)	420,318	412,082	34,914	26,250	33,879	34,356	34,144	40,458	30,744	34,201	30,829	36,388	32,529r	33,534	.....
Crude oil and condensate production (1,000 barrels)	18,411	19,824	1,580	1,742	1,719	1,649	1,692	1,704	1,718	1,671	1,499	1,606	1,581	1,684	.....
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes (1,000,000 kwh)	25,747	27,073	2,267	2,297	2,365	2,476	2,376	2,320	2,262	2,323	2,316	2,321	2,339	2,412	.....
Pig iron production (1,000 net tons)	3,014	3,417	288	308	273	277	310	275	286	299	306	339	286	334	338
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production (1,000 net tons)	4,501	4,475	375	390	382	356	387	372	337	393	365	404	395	377	398
Steel ingot production, adjusted index (1967 = 100)	82.7	93.2	91.9	91.8	87.5	94.2	104.1	97.7	101.5	107.3	90.9	96.1	96.4	94.6	91.6
Steel ingot production (Ala., Ark., Miss., Tenn.)[2] (1,000 net tons)	3,959	4,265	358	369	347	354	392	352	368	372	358	411	370	412	377
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] ($1,000)	1,980,024r	2,649,314	197,885r	189,104	182,258	266,854	226,681	187,097	162,414	191,706	152,064	222,302	634,517	243,317r	194,881
Residential	1,016,144r	1,304,837	113,825r	104,379	121,438	97,227	137,510	88,365	85,667	80,583	97,033	99,449	88,334	104,524r	87,394
Nonresidential	593,847r	658,761	68,656r	54,850	29,614	128,712	36,233	49,530	29,385	79,159	46,131	57,669	53,305	99,508r	40,934
Public works and utilities	370,033r	685,716	13,317	29,875	31,206	40,915	52,938	49,202	47,362	31,964	8,900	65,286	492,879	39,284r	66,553
Cement consumption (1,000 net tons)	1,410	1,496	147	128	151	129	149	117	104	65	77	126	108	.....	.....
FINANCE															
Insurance sales, ordinary life ($1,000)	4,388,334	4,993,002	440,355	401,520	470,780	422,418	429,125	415,287	460,925	409,115	421,672	492,090r	497,596	517,002	512,417
Savings in savings and loan associations[4] ($1,000,000)	3,332	3,775	3,570	3,607	3,629	3,688	3,709	3729	3,775	3,814	3,836	3,898	3,882	3,889r	3,939
Tax collections ($1,000)															
Total	1,320,681	1,477,673	103,954	113,328	154,493	119,069	125,995	146,423	86,045	127,816	157,198	113,632	143,612	182,986	101,688
Franchise	33,784	37,481	2,397	1,630	4,723	4,347	4,395	1,529	3,178	2,145	388	8,821	3,234	1,305	2,515
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	144,949	150,919	13,315	13,357	12,903	13,586	12,328	12,845	12,392	12,691	12,335	11,233	12,544	12,027	12,705
Income	420,817	493,972	24,762	25,605	70,449	25,448	34,968	66,499	7,096	30,912	78,730	31,170	46,630	93,294	25,573
Motor fuels	23,474	26,791	1,988	1,849	2,457	1,872	2,712	3,082	2,688	1,914	2,449	2,085	2,167	2,521	2,127
Sales	415,947	456,694	42,045	39,243	38,535	39,086	38,011	39,480	40,570	46,301	38,795	38,210	39,694	46,567	42,481
2.2% Gross receipts	20,168	25,861	37	6,179	99	3	6,794	56	8	6,731	106	30	6,669	199	.....
TVA electric	19,109	19,652	1,360	1,360	1,360	5,576	.....	1,598	1,598	1,598	1,598	1,598	1,598	1,598	1,598
Tobacco	50,630	52,099	4,455	4,631	4,698	4,437	4,502	4,324	4,186	4,228	3,772	4,052	4,235	4,420	4,330
Use	50,981	51,435	878	7,544	5,156	542	7,816	4,575	916	8,412	4,717	808	8,431	5,542	655
Utility	70,910	79,978	6,492	5,631	6,899	7,512	7,608	6,792	7,276	6,644	7,115	8,562	8,453	10,041	4,640
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S.[5] (1967 = 100)															
All items	181.5	195.4	195.3	196.7	197.8	199.3	200.9	202.0	202.9	206.7	207.1	209.1	211.5	214.1	216.6
Food	192.2	211.4	213.8	215.0	215.4	215.6	216.8	217.8	219.4	223.9	228.2	230.4	232.3	234.3	235.4
Housing	189.6	202.8	202.0	203.8	205.2	207.5	209.5	210.6	211.5	213.1	215.6	217.6	219.8	222.4	225.5
Fuel and utilities	202.2	216.0	217.3	218.0	218.1	218.8	220.1	218.5	219.9	221.5	223.3	225.9	227.5	232.2	239.0
Apparel and upkeep	154.2	159.6	159.9	158.0	159.6	161.9	163.3	164.1	163.2	160.7	161.4	164.3	165.4	166.1	165.7
Transportation	177.2	185.5	185.5	187.2	188.1	188.7	189.7	191.4	192.6	193.9	195.6	198.1	202.9	207.7	212.6
Medical care	202.4	219.4	217.9	219.4	221.4	222.6	224.7	227.0	227.8	230.7	232.6	233.9	235.1	236.3	237.7
Energy	.....	220.4	220.7	222.4	223.7	225.1	226.5	225.9	228.3	231.5	235.0	241.2	250.2	260.8	275.4
Producer Price Index, U.S.[6] (1967 = 100)															
All commodities	194.2	209.2	209.4	210.6	210.4	212.3	214.9r	215.7	217.5r	220.8r	224.1r	226.4	229.7	231.6	233.1
Industrial commodities	195.0	209.3	208.5	209.9	211.2	212.4	214.7	216.0	217.2r	220.0r	222.5r	225.1	228.6	231.1	233.5
Index of prices received by Alabama farmers (1966-68 = 100)	184.0	206.0	213.0r	217.0	206.0	211.0	210.0	212.0	219.0	234.0	244.0	250.0	248.0	243.0r	228.0
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S. (1967 = $1.000) As measured by															
Consumer prices	.551	.512	.512	.508	.506	.502	.498	.495	.493	.489	.483	.478	.473	.467	.462
Wholesale prices	.515	.478	.480	.475	.475	.471	.465	.464	.460	.453	.446r	.442	.435	.432	.429
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[7]															
Civilian labor force (1,000 workers)	1,534.0	1,593.0	1,623.3	1,635.0	1,615.5	1,612.4	1,621.0	1,606.2	1,603.9	1,579.1	1,595.0	1,592.8	1,601.4	1,623.8	1,639.8
Unemployment	114.0	101.0	108.3	117.4	100.6	93.2	91.7	89.3	96.7	115.3	122.9	116.9	107.6	107.8	128.7
Unemployment rate	7.4	6.3	6.7	7.2	6.2	5.8	5.7	5.6	6.0	7.3	7.7	7.3	6.7	6.6	7.8
Employment	1,420.0	1,492.0	1,515.0	1,517.6	1,517.9	1,519.2	1,529.3	1,516.9	1,507.2	1,463.8	1,472.1	1,475.9	1,493.8	1,516.0	1,511.1
Nonagricultural	1,269.2r	1,336.3	1,358.5	1,360.5	1,361.6	1,355.3	1,359.5	1,361.7	1,361.3	1,340.6	1,343.1	1,346.5	1,354.0	1,356.0	1,350.7
Manufacturing	354.3r	365.3	370.1	366.3	369.4	369.2	368.0	368.2	367.5	365.7	364.8	363.8	364.9	361.6	361.5
Durable goods	165.8r	178.7	181.2	180.6	181.1	181.5	181.9	182.5	181.8	180.8	181.0	181.6	181.9	180.6	181.4
Lumber and wood products	28.9r	30.0	30.6	30.6	30.7	30.5	30.4	30.3	30.3	30.1	29.9	30.3	30.1	30.1	30.1
Stone, clay, glass products	10.3r	10.8	11.0	11.0	10.9	10.8	10.9	11.0	10.9	10.8	10.7	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.7
Primary metals	42.2r	44.6	45.0	44.4	45.1	44.9	45.0	45.1	44.9	44.3	44.3	44.1	44.8	44.6	45.0
Blast furn. and steel works	17.4r	18.4	18.5	18.6	18.6	18.4	18.5	18.7	18.7	18.5	18.6	18.6	18.8	18.7	18.9
Iron and steel foundries	13.6r	14.7	15.0	14.7	14.9	14.8	14.9	14.7	14.6	14.1	13.9	13.9	14.2	14.1	14.2
Fabricated metals	24.8r	25.3	25.8	25.1	25.3	25.1	25.4	25.7	25.4	25.3	25.0	25.2	25.4	24.6	24.6
Machinery (incl. electrical)	27.0r	31.2	31.1	31.7	31.2	32.0	32.0	32.2	32.2	32.4	32.5	32.5	32.8	33.1	33.2
Transportation	17.9r	20.1	20.5	20.9	20.8	21.2	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.9	22.1	22.0	21.1	21.4
Other durable goods	14.7r	16.7	17.2	16.9	17.1	17.0	16.7	16.7	16.6	16.4	16.7	16.6	16.0	16.3	16.4
Nondurable goods	188.5r	186.6	188.9	185.7	188.3	187.7	186.1	185.7	185.7	184.9	183.8	182.2	183.0	181.0	180.1
Food	27.3	27.3	27.4	27.5	27.6	27.7	27.7	27.8	27.7	27.5	27.4	27.2	27.4	27.4	27.6
Textile mill products	47.2r	45.6	45.8	45.4	45.6	45.8	45.4	45.3	45.2	45.3	45.0	44.6	44.7	44.2	42.7
Apparel	52.5r	52.9	54.1	50.9	53.5	53.7	53.2	52.7	52.7	52.2	50.9	50.2	50.5	50.3	51.1
Paper and allied products	20.2r	19.4	19.7	20.0	19.8	19.3	18.9	18.9	19.0	18.8	19.4	19.1	19.2	19.3	19.5
Printing and publishing	9.6r	9.9	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.8
Chemicals and allied products	15.1	15.2	15.4	15.4	15.3	15.3	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.3	15.4	15.4	15.5
Rubber products	13.0r	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.1	13.2	13.1	13.3	13.3	13.3	13.4	13.4	13.4	12.0	11.3
Other nondurable goods	3.6r	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Nonmanufacturing	914.9r	971.0	988.4	994.2	992.2	986.1	991.5	993.5	993.8	974.9	978.3	982.7	989.1	994.4	989.2
Mining and quarrying	13.9r	13.6	15.9	15.9	16.0	16.0	16.1	16.2	16.1	16.1	15.9	15.7	15.8	15.8	16.0
Bituminous coal mining	10.1r	9.8	12.0	12.0	12.1	12.0	12.1	12.2	12.1	12.1	11.9	11.7	11.8	11.9	12.0
Contract construction	75.9	79.6	84.1	84.6	84.2	83.7	82.8	81.6	78.8	70.0	71.6	74.4	76.4	78.9	81.5
Trans., comm., and utilities	65.0r	69.2	70.1	71.1	71.2	71.2	71.1	71.1	70.9	70.3	70.5	71.2	71.5	71.4	71.5
Trade	259.1r	268.9	270.7	271.5	272.2	273.9	274.0	275.8	280.8	271.9	269.6	270.4	274.4	274.2	274.2
Wholesale	70.8r	72.4	73.4	73.3	73.0	74.1	73.9	73.8	73.8	73.9	73.7	74.0	74.6	74.0	74.5
Retail	188.3r	196.5	197.3	198.2	199.2	199.8	200.1	202.0	207.0	198.0	195.9	196.4	199.8	200.2	199.7
Finance, insurance, real estate	55.4r	57.6	58.3	58.6	58.6	58.3	58.2	58.2	58.3	58.2	58.4	58.6	58.5	58.8	59.2
Service and miscellaneous	179.3r	192.0	193.6	193.7	194.4	195.0	194.7	194.6	194.6	194.1	194.6	195.1	196.3	197.5	198.4
Government	266.3r	290.1	295.7	298.8	295.6	288.0	294.6	296.0	294.3	294.3	297.7	297.3	296.2	297.8	288.4
Federal	63.1r	64.3	65.1	64.8	64.7	64.5	64.7	64.5	64.0	62.9	63.0	63.0	62.8	63.2	63.7
State and local	203.2r	225.8	230.6	234.0	230.9	223.5	229.9	231.5	230.3	231.4	234.7	234.3	233.4	234.6	224.7

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1978							1979					
	1977	1978	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONTINUED															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service *(number)*															
Job applications	272,736	269,276	31,378	23,746	26,571	22,052	22,338	19,310	15,400	26,816	21,537	26,105	23,413	30,434	32,953
Nonagricultural placements	115,250	109,979	18,208	15,291	11,979	9,243	8,557	6,583	4,945	7,165	6,739	8,652	7,958	8,852	13,975
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	308,697	297,194	21,933	34,622	21,778	16,645	19,299	20,603	26,532	66,646	30,242	32,653	26,812	27,089	29,457
Payments *($1,000)*	108,675	107,482	7,925	8,355	9,315	7,030	7,294	7,987	8,266	13,180	11,295	12,913	9,874	10,782	9,818
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	10,475r	12,754	13,768	13,685	13,469	13,225	13,349	13,309	13,386	13,357	13,659	13,371	13,508	13,816	13,991
	4.2	6.5	8.6	8.3	6.7	5.7	5.8	5.6	6.2	8.1	9.3	7.1	6.9	7.4	6.5
Baldwin	27,495r	29,408	30,414	31,062	29,943	30,006	29,947	29,828	29,739	29,254	29,425	29,829	29,980	30,220	30,852
	6.7r	6.0	6.0	7.9	5.6	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.4	6.5	6.2	6.5	6.7	6.5	7.4
Barbour	10,712r	11,180	11,235	11,235	11,388	11,343	11,529	11,317	11,161	10,943	11,284	10,870	11,279	11,411	11,644
	8.0	7.1	8.5	8.7	7.5	7.1	6.5	6.7	6.5	7.8	9.9	7.8	8.0	7.2	9.4
Bibb	4,689r	5,124	5,339	4,808	5,230	5,136	5,154	5,042	4,882	4,846	4,863	4,900	5,090	5,042	5,051
	10.0r	9.4	8.5	8.5	71.1	6.8	7.5	8.4	8.6	10.5	13.0	11.8	11.6	10.0	8.5
Blount	13,097r	13,606	13,905	13,823	13,593	13,940	14,232	13,705	13,441	13,008	13,265	13,347	13,617	14,056	14,118
	7.1	5.8	5.4	5.8	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.6	5.6	7.3	7.2	6.6	6.5	6.1	6.8
Bullock	4,143r	4,254	4,307	4,278	4,334	4,635	4,572	4,359	4,207	4,044	3,977	4,023	4,114	4,297	4,308
	6.3r	7.0	7.4	7.7	9.1	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.5	8.5	7.4	7.2	7.1	6.7	10.1
Butler	8,119r	8,373	8,462	8,743	8,581	8,583	8,585	8,510	8,478	8,347	8,366	8,373	8,508	8,630	8,766
	6.0	6.2	6.9	12.4	5.9	6.0	5.2	4.7	4.9	5.7	8.1	7.3	6.9	6.3	8.2
Calhoun	41,669r	42,709	43,167	43,698	42,585	42,156	42,353	42,495	43,575	42,096	42,412	42,444	42,232	42,754	42,838
	9.1r	7.3	7.2	8.6	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.5	8.1	8.4	8.6	7.5	7.8	9.0
Chambers	17,508r	17,603	18,180	18,091	17,883	17,740	17,402	17,307	17,286	17,092	16,885	16,849	16,679	16,243	16,919
	4.6	5.3	5.6	6.0	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.7	6.2	7.2	8.0	8.5	9.8	6.4	10.3
Cherokee	8,912r	9,432	9,248	9,059	9,564	9,934	10,147	9,831	9,612	9,472	9,398	9,576	9,889	10,115	9,888
	6.9	5.7	7.3	7.7	6.0	4.5	5.1	4.4	4.3	5.3	6.0	5.4	5.0	5.1	6.4
Chilton	11,540r	11,931	12,188	12,006	11,895	12,073	12,144	11,824	11,803	11,630	11,729	11,719	11,876	12,255	12,173
	8.0r	7.3	8.1	7.4	7.0	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.5	10.1	9.3	8.7	8.6	8.3	9.3
Choctaw	5,164r	5,353	5,380	5,592	5,350	5,502	5,530	5,430	5,492	5,429	5,479	5,382	5,538	5,611	5,565
	8.3r	7.2	7.0	10.1	6.0	6.4	7.1	6.2	7.2	7.5	8.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.0
Clarke	9,758r	9,790	9,877	9,980	9,632	9,599	9,604	9,529	9,581	9,714	9,899	9,701	9,662	9,865	10,190
	8.1r	8.2	9.3	10.5	8.1	6.8	7.1	7.1	8.0	8.9	8.6	8.4	7.2	8.0	9.5
Clay	5,375r	5,674r	5,675	5,912	5,691	5,829	5,919	5,819	5,743	5,688	5,757	5,731	5,825	5,934	5,818
	6.1	6.1	6.2	8.2	5.9	5.2	4.9	5.2	5.7	9.2	11.8	11.0	11.5	11.3	12.2
Cleburne	4,556r	4,632	4,548	4,811	4,751	4,884	4,828	4,778	4,731	4,802	4,844	4,999	4,902	4,972	5,034
	5.8r	5.0	5.5	6.5	4.0	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.3	6.3	6.6	8.2	5.1	5.2	5.8
Coffee	16,878r	18,137	18,373	18,653	18,670	18,791	18,941	18,798	18,859	18,696	19,164	19,187	19,230	19,590	19,544
	6.3r	4.9	5.3	5.6	4.5	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.6	5.4	5.8	4.6	4.6	5.5
Colbert	21,544r	22,115	22,388	22,270	22,296	22,351	22,228	22,069	22,122	21,815	21,838	21,632	21,825	21,806	22,105
	9.9	7.2	8.3	6.4	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.9	8.3	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.1	7.8
Conecuh	5,993r	6,584	6,750	6,881	6,761	6,864	6,933	6,760	6,691	6,620	6,772	6,702	6,758	6,965	6,895
	7.5r	5.8	6.4	7.5	5.3	4.8	5.1	5.4	6.1	6.9	7.7	6.8	7.1	7.8	9.9
Coosa	4,557r	4,839	5,019	4,890	4,892	4,924	5,038	4,924	4,940	4,885	4,959	4,900	4,979	5,104	5,221
	6.5r	5.3	5.9	6.8	5.7	5.0	5.3	5.0	4.8	6.0	5.6	5.9	5.4	6.2	7.1
Covington	15,004r	15,357	15,195	17,021	15,336	15,410	15,717	15,497	15,315	15,210	15,992	15,195	15,194	15,367	15,171
	7.4r	5.7	5.0	7.3	5.1	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.5	6.3	11.5	7.5	6.1	5.7	6.3
Crenshaw	5,974r	6,431	6,980	7,185	6,409	6,521	6,778	6,307	6,140	5,926	6,128	6,085	6,272	6,592	6,464
	5.7r	5.4	6.8	7.1	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.9	5.8	6.4	7.7	5.6	4.7	5.4	6.3
Cullman	24,183r	24,681	24,949	24,660	24,295	25,278	25,620	25,201	24,916	24,336	24,698	25,010	24,950	25,564	25,433
	8.6	6.5	6.2	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.9	5.6	6.5	8.0	8.2	9.2	6.7	6.6	8.0
Dale	10,135r	10,171	10,206	10,411	10,224	10,321	10,582	10,317	10,248	10,019	10,052	9,997	10,337	10,383	10,355
	9.8	6.7	6.8	8.3	6.2	5.2	5.5	5.3	5.9	6.6	7.3	6.9	8.8	7.2	8.4
Dallas	21,675r	20,769	21,108	21,139	21,150	20,775	20,654	20,338	20,295	19,910	20,019	20,002	20,440	20,572	20,835
	9.3r	8.8	9.6	9.0	8.8	7.7	7.2		7.7	10.2	10.1	9.6	9.9	9.1	10.8
DeKalb	23,215r	24,498	24,812	25,828	25,645	25,068	25,374	24,635	24,303	23,776	24,175	24,323	24,699	25,297	25,339
	7.7	6.0	6.1	7.7	5.4	4.8	4.7	4.8	5.0	7.2	7.4	6.9	6.7	5.6	6.5
Elmore	15,217r	17,699	18,752	18,566	18,490	18,311	18,459	18,448	18,488	18,316	18,549	18,554	18,733	18,982	19,580
	5.0	4.8	5.8	5.1	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.7	5.9	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.4	6.2
Escambia	15,117r	14,989	15,348	16,940	15,473	14,787	15,494	15,408	15,543	15,468	15,650	15,487	15,509	15,776	15,946
	8.7	6.8	6.9	9.8	6.4	5.7	5.8	5.7	6.9	8.4	9.4	8.9	8.2	8.3	9.3
Etowah	37,982r	39,597	39,976	40,459	39,857	39,623	39,416	39,523	39,682	39,738	40,015	39,754	40,105	40,326	40,707
	9.0r	7.0	7.0	7.3	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.3	8.5	8.0	7.3	7.0	6.7	8.0
Fayette	9,020r	9,637	9,809	9,910	9,795	9,813	9,855	9,759	9,641	9,322	9,417	9,192	9,308	9,433	9,398
	7.6r	6.0	5.9	6.2	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	5.0	6.2	8.9	7.3	7.6	6.3	7.6
Franklin	11,020r	11,067	11,128	11,400	11,224	10,866	10,951	10,957	10,962	10,777	11,038	10,908	11,005	11,010	11,266
	9.4r	7.7	6.8	8.0	6.9	5.9	5.5	6.1	8.0	8.4	11.3	8.4	7.4	6.5	9.6
Geneva	10,118r	10,397	10,725	10,883	10,589	10,922	11,014	10,741	10,437	10,065	10,701	10,217	10,410	10,641	10,162
	9.6r	6.2	5.9	7.2	5.3	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.8	5.4	11.0	6.0	5.5	5.3	6.3
Greene	3,678r	4,332	4,404	4,507	4,417	4,403	4,415	4,271	4,160	3,746	4,195	4,064	4,136	4,220	4,092
	16.2	10.0	10.6	9.0	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.8	9.0	14.0	15.3	17.5	16.9	16.2	16.7
Hale	4,769r	4,811	4,839	5,218	4,728	4,857	4,951	4,929	4,727	4,687	4,647	4,676	4,860	4,989	4,617
	12.5r	10.6	9.7	13.9	8.4	7.7	7.4	10.4	11.2	13.8	12.5	12.8	13.7	12.0	11.1
Henry	6,195r	6,776	6,832	6,929	7,031	7,254	7,513	7,149	6,820	6,582	6,645	6,668	6,824	7,048	6,682
	5.9	6.9	7.8	8.3	7.5	6.9	6.3	5.9	6.3	7.4	7.8	7.2	5.9	5.5	6.2
Houston	35,761r	38,083	38,376	38,664	39,645	39,233	39,456	38,485	38,760	37,080	37,633	37,414	37,996	39,160	39,293
	5.3r	5.3	5.5	6.8	5.4	5.0	4.9	4.3	5.1	6.1	6.3	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.8
Jackson	20,465r	20,333	20,629	20,952	20,616	20,804	20,906	20,604	20,291	19,914	20,188	20,341	20,798	20,803	20,533
	10.0r	6.9	7.1	8.3	6.8	6.1	5.5	5.1	5.8	8.1	8.4	8.0	8.3	6.8	7.7
Jefferson	306,289r	302,793r	302,115	305,353	303,542	301,101	302,270	301,765	303,633	298,547	299,672	300,294	301,120	304,275	307,415
	6.7r	5.4	5.3	5.8	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.0	5.4	6.2	6.3	6.4	5.6	5.6	6.5
Lamar	6,837r	7,949	7,845	7,953	7,767	8,065	8,229	8,061	7,997	7,846	7,901	7,912	7,966	7,937	7,987
	5.3r	5.5	5.4	10.7	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.6	4.7	5.6	7.8	7.2	4.8	5.9
Lauderdale	30,565r	32,496	33,547	33,466	33,222	33,132	32,936	32,845	32,815	32,605	32,749	32,304	32,378	32,764	33,721
	7.3	5.9	6.3	6.7	5.4	5.0	5.1	5.3	6.0	8.0	8.0	7.3	6.7	7.3	9.4
Lawrence	10,521r	12,566	13,127	13,194	13,147	13,259	13,307	13,073	12,869	12,852	13,012	13,134	13,272	13,198	13,197
	9.7r	7.3	6.9	7.3	6.2	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.6	9.2	9.3	10.5	7.7	7.5	8.9
Lee	29,544r	31,733r	32,909	32,163	31,782	31,494	32,467	32,356	31,799	31,857	32,357	32,055	31,934	32,434	32,475
	4.2r	4.0	4.0	5.7	4.2	4.1	3.4	3.4	3.9	5.0	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.7
Limestone	18,477r	19,819	20,294	20,579	20,271	20,303	20,224	20,020	19,987	19,876	20,095	19,893	20,182	20,462	20,731
	7.8	6.6	7.3	7.2	6.7	6.1	5.3	5.5	6.0	7.8	8.3	7.2	7.0	6.5	8.1
Lowndes	4,000r	4,376	4,350	4,513	4,545	4,564	4,697	4,606	4,540	4,292	4,408	4,317	4,445	4,535	4,445
	10.2	7.4	7.9	9.0	8.0	8.5	7.7	6.7	7.8	9.9	10.7	8.9	7.7	7.9	9.3
Macon	7,104r	7,231	7,483	7,443	7,490	7,273	7,286	7,117	7,089	7,045	7,037	7,047	7,077	7,276	7,091
	7.5r	6.4	7.1	7.5	7.9	7.3	6.9	6.9	7.2	8.5	8.3	7.7	6.9	7.6	9.3
Madison	84,800r	86,159r	87,274	87,265	87,882	86,769	87,175	85,873	85,684	84,288	84,907	86,889	85,956	87,690	90,306
	7.6	6.1	7.3	5.9	7.4	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.6	6.5	6.7	8.6	6.0	6.1	9.2
Marengo	8,718r	8,839	9,187	9,298	8,931	9,076	9,133	8,895	8,817	8,399	8,388	8,430	8,697	8,737	8,642
	9.0r	6.8	7.1	8.7	6.1	5.9	5.6	5.8	6.5	7.7	8.1	7.2	8.9	6.6	8.1
Marion	10,954r	11,612r	11,582	11,898	11,585	11,758	11,755	11,839	12,053	11,719	12,207	11,749	11,767	11,833	12,041
	6.2	6.6r	5.6	7.6	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.8	8.8	8.3	14.3	9.7	8.0	7.4	9.1
Marshall	24,156r	27,349	28,216	29,296	28,365	28,351	28,477	28,209	28,239	28,081	28,087	27,837	28,111	28,501	28,850
	7.3	7.1	7.2	9.3	7.2	6.4	6.4	6.7	7.4	9.2	8.7	7.7	7.1	6.6	8.1
Mobile	145,471r	149,460r	154,159	153,594	150,988	150,774	150,254	149,179	149,621	147,490	149,011	150,314	149,569	152,750	156,491
	8.5r	7.2	7.9	7.6	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.2	6.7	8.0	8.1	7.9	7.2	8.2	9.4

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1978							1979					
	1977	1978	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONTINUED															
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)* —continued															
Monroe	8,959r	11,134	11,811	11,937	11,643	11,813	11,740	11,502	11,228	11,381	11,314	11,736	11,186	11,352	11,364
	7.7r	6.8	7.1	9.8	5.8	5.4	5.9	6.0	6.7	7.9	8.1	12.0	6.8	7.4	8.9
Montgomery	80,505r	83,586r	85,447	85,309	85,129	84,182	84,720	84,332	84,298	82,981	83,778	83,603	84,535	85,932	89,417
	6.2r	5.5	6.2	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.8	5.8	5.3	5.3	5.2	6.8
Morgan	33,631r	34,984r	35,838	35,500	36,044	35,395	35,638	35,379	35,296	35,156	35,438	35,440	35,596	35,912	36,158
	7.9r	6.5r	6.9	6.8	6.9	5.6	5.5	5.7	6.1	8.0	7.7	7.3	6.8	6.5	7.8
Perry	4,456r	4,610r	4,839	4,821	4,651	4,867	4,852	4,677	4,542	4,608	4,655	4,621	4,663	4,872	4,867
	9.4r	8.4	9.8	10.2	9.3	8.1	7.0	7.2	7.0	7.6	9.8	7.7	6.5	7.0	9.5
Pickens	8,401r	8,101	8,301	7,981	8,155	8,072	8,050	7,846	7,752	7,655	7,690	7,656	7,725	7,840	7,790
	9.1r	8.7	9.6	9.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	8.5	7.7	8.2	10.0	8.1	10.1	8.8	8.9
Pike	12,120r	12,457	13,051	12,922	12,380	12,324	13,188	12,759	11,690	11,430	12,420	11,701	11,929	12,197	12,250
	5.5	5.2	5.2	6.2	5.6	5.4	4.6	4.5	5.1	5.9	7.3	4.8	4.8	4.7	6.2
Randolph	8,007r	8,140	8,259	8,461	8,201	8,384	8,516	8,359	7,671	7,752	7,955	7,832	7,839	7,808	7,555
	8.0	10.4	10.4	13.7	10.9	10.6	9.0	8.5	8.4	10.5	14.3	10.9	10.2	10.0	10.8
Russell	18,397r	18,407	18,773	18,655	18,780	18,619	18,414	18,533	18,491	17,220	17,251	17,165	17,071	17,300	17,545
	8.1r	7.2	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	6.7	7.0	6.8	9.0	9.2	8.8	7.8	8.2	8.9
St. Clair	11,759r	15,399	16,646	16,802	16,734	16,578	16,662	16,571	16,737	16,592	16,578	16,558	16,726	16,876	16,932
	6.6r	4.9	4.7	5.1	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.2	4.9	6.5	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.9
Shelby	17,057r	22,682	24,619	25,132	25,031	24,686	24,546	24,381	24,645	24,384	24,115	23,978	24,275	24,410	24,769
	6.2r	6.5	6.9	8.2	7.7	7.2	6.4	5.8	6.6	8.0	6.7	6.0	6.2	5.7	7.0
Sumter	6,527r	6,571	6,572	6,693	6,541	6,839	6,894	6,613	6,525	6,300	6,363	6,357	6,526	6,572	6,481
	6.3r	5.9	6.6	7.8	7.1	5.3	6.4	5.7	5.3	6.4	7.6	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.5
Talladega	26,283r	26,864	27,259	27,854	27,329	26,932	27,183	27,076	27,550	27,083	27,328	27,043	27,363	27,819	27,787
	9.4r	8.3	8.4	10.3	8.9	7.4	7.6	7.6	9.4	9.4	10.0	9.7	10.1	10.1	11.2
Tallapoosa	15,852r	16,081	16,633	16,447	16,267	16,063	16,131	16,023	16,136	15,925	15,956	15,885	16,062	16,221	16,455
	5.7	5.5	6.5	6.3	5.6	5.0	5.3	4.8	5.7	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.5	5.8	7.2
Tuscaloosa	51,787r	51,592	51,702	50,605	51,397	51,097	51,502	51,484	51,252	50,597	51,316	51,224	51,520	51,783	50,723
	7.0	6.9	7.9	7.4	6.7	5.6	5.3	6.1	5.8	7.2	7.5	6.6	6.1	6.2	6.5
Walker	22,896r	28,938	31,306	31,455	30,920	30,628	30,654	30,554	30,768	31,189	31,714	30,932	31,318	31,531	31,885
	7.1r	6.8	7.8	7.7	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.9	9.5	10.7	8.3	8.4	8.1	9.1
Washington	6,772r	5,654	5,752	5,787	5,626	5,761	5,682	5,462	5,402	5,215	5,222	5,210	5,236	5,398	5,224
	6.3r	10.1	12.2	12.6	11.4	10.4	9.8	9.3	9.7	12.1	13.2	14.1	11.3	11.3	12.2
Wilcox	4,676r	4,861r	4,871	4,915	5,079	5,068	5,208	5,103	4,989	4,887	5,053	4,949	4,951	5,095	5,020
	11.1r	7.1	8.4	7.4	6.5	6.4	6.0	6.7	6.9	10.3	11.4	9.3	9.0	8.8	9.6
Winston	6,771r	7,432	7,251	7,392	7,532	7,585	7,632	7,435	7,332	7,222	7,287	7,322	7,345	7,625	7,364
	10.1r	8.9	8.2	8.4	7.9	6.8	6.6	6.6	9.0	10.8	13.9	12.6	9.8	11.1	11.4
TRADE															
Foreign, through Port of Mobile															
Imports															
Value *($1,000)*	667,465	1,049,905	86,497	125,505	78,470	111,479	60,644	142,941	33,938	49,055	39,032	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	22,585	35,633	3,326	5,644	3,210	4,478	1,652	3,775	671	1,007	1,210	.....	.....	.....	.....
Exports															
Value *($1,000)*	708,588r	913,311	69,870	73,256	66,736	62,040	100,519	75,010	69,267	63,685	67,597	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	11,122	10,454	673	1,192	939	639	900	732	522	498	696	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[8] *(1,000 tons)*	35,968	34,783	3,225	3,580	4,194	2,754	2,898	2,836	2,800	2,374	2,419	3,142	3,603	3,051	.....
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	21,866	22,495	1,762	2,284	2,303	2,202	1,850	1,460	1,672	2,128	2,242	1,732	1,466	1,423	.....
Gasoline sales[9] *(1,000 gallons)*	2,178,852	2,163,414	191,547	185,047	194,090	177,648	184,223	177,758	182,386	176,921	161,156	179,910	.....	.....	.....
New passenger car registrations[10] *(number)*	178,909	176,113	16,072	15,955	16,506	11,630	14,842	12,994	14,860	13,889	12,925	15,562	15,526	17,359	.....
Retail sales by kind of business, state totals[11] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	2,435	2,708	235	233	230	234	233	228	248	224	223	250	238	249	271
General stores with food and gas	158	188	17	17	17	17	17	16	17	16	15	18	18	19	20
General merchandise	1,636	1,778	112	141	149	140	146	174	269	119	120	146	155	158	106
Apparel	386	423	31	32	36	34	36	38	63	32	28	37	40	36	33
Furniture, furnishings, etc.	412	461	39	39	40	39	38	40	48	38	37	42	39	43	42
Automotive	2,349	2,708	254	243	248	216	244	214	203	205	208	261	235	247	212
Gasoline service stations	851	859	77	77	80	73	74	71	77	72	67	82	77	82	84
Lumber and building materials	728	850	79	74	76	77	81	77	67	60	57	76	72	82	79
Hardware and farm implements	365	423	39	36	37	34	41	36	33	27	28	37	39	39	37
Eating places	690	809	70	70	72	69	69	67	71	65	64	77	75	77	72
Drug stores	334	362	29	28	30	29	30	30	38	34	32	33	32	35	32
All other retail	1,763	1,968	166	157	164	161	168	162	193	154	152	185	187	206	178
Total sales by retail concerns	12,108	13,537	1,150	1,148	1,177	1,124	1,167	1,154	1,327	1,046	1,030	1,244	1,207	1,273	1,166
Nonretail and unclassified concerns	4,026	4,573	380	365	410	377	430	417	449	349	378	432	405	460	422
Total all sales at retail	16,135	18,110	1,529	1,513	1,587	1,501	1,597	1,571	1,777	1,395	1,409	1,677	1,612	1,733	1,588
Retail sales, Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[11] *($1,000)*															
SMSAs															
Anniston	336,906	378,338	35,763	31,214	34,747	31,846	33,511	30,552	35,422	27,102	26,195	36,285	32,362	38,492	33,446
Birmingham	4,328,519	4,856,558	415,997	411,735	421,640	402,631	439,218	423,912	481,371	398,932	388,298	452,259	441,365	458,105	445,255
Florence	400,209	462,969	41,434	40,312	41,741	37,880	39,246	39,264	45,810	36,557	35,489	44,027	41,739	45,469	38,466
Gadsden	320,993	371,328	33,064	32,913	33,264	31,654	33,002	31,417	34,554	29,126	28,433	34,668	33,741	34,646	32,897
Huntsville	1,007,895	1,110,227	97,233	95,770	99,291	89,814	98,122	94,980	101,993	82,994	82,388	102,586	98,713	105,738	94,983
Mobile	1,549,980	1,757,700	156,959	150,634	150,884	138,736	144,390	142,559	157,739	136,671	129,208	158,997	157,807	162,323	146,298
Montgomery	1,024,454	1,196,843	104,743	99,797	106,045	99,458	103,683	100,869	109,121	87,070	94,575	108,643	104,208	109,114	107,157
Tuscaloosa	432,745	474,953	40,996	38,448	42,121	42,063	41,010	41,471	44,105	37,350	36,539	41,781	40,738	43,471	41,670
Counties															
Autauga	74,313	85,288	7,035	7,366	7,080	6,627	6,886	6,404	6,499	6,369	7,691	7,867	8,283	7,901	7,695
Baldwin	239,838	273,318	25,469	24,359	23,990	21,352	22,102	21,306	21,996	19,554	19,759	25,494	24,955	27,344	26,809
Barbour	52,971	56,554	5,004	4,580	4,629	4,623	4,543	4,312	5,548	4,229	4,256	5,368	5,224	5,414	5,076
Bibb	24,809	27,255	2,549	2,233	2,480	2,248	2,299	2,400	2,406	2,021	1,923	2,295	2,268	2,322	2,487
Blount	76,414	76,382	6,936	6,439	7,017	6,120	6,722	6,139	6,708	5,615	5,324	7,056	6,570	7,395	7,947
Bullock	23,073	24,934	2,177	2,219	2,022	2,078	2,033	2,322	2,304	2,314	2,275	2,345	2,151	2,389	2,779
Butler	51,764	59,353	5,140	4,983	5,163	4,914	5,077	4,524	5,650	4,865	4,302	5,489	5,333	5,568	5,361
Calhoun	336,906	378,338	35,763	31,214	34,747	31,846	33,511	30,552	35,422	27,102	26,195	36,285	32,362	38,492	33,446
Chambers	61,409	68,953	6,159	5,762	6,043	5,940	6,117	6,384	6,291	6,005	5,407	6,783	6,691	7,007	7,306
Cherokee	42,290	46,189	3,809	3,565	3,599	3,625	5,451	4,324	4,142	3,430	3,253	4,547	4,486	4,792	4,590
Chilton	63,615	72,620	6,667	6,242	6,174	5,810	6,251	6,098	6,624	5,614	5,682	7,005	6,426	7,242	6,793
Choctaw	31,962	37,245	3,147	3,084	3,242	2,985	3,096	3,283	3,375	3,028	2,978	3,496	3,494	3,558	3,553
Clarke	83,401	88,097	7,702	7,719	7,406	7,103	7,513	7,080	8,320	6,835	6,396	7,665	7,854	8,098	8,011
Clay	23,313	25,512	2,117	2,155	2,114	2,157	2,484	2,247	2,408	2,033	1,917	2,259	2,170	2,135	2,164
Cleburne	17,457	18,897	1,720	1,652	1,665	1,447	1,601	1,705	1,516	1,321	1,481	1,782	1,633	1,731	1,742
Coffee	109,147	127,746	11,186	10,905	11,310	10,555	10,841	10,577	12,055	10,484	11,432	12,909	12,827	13,361	11,397

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1978							1979					
	1977	1978	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June
TRADE—CONTINUED															
Retail sales, SMSAs and counties—continued															
Counties—continued															
Colbert	189,732	220,100	19,800	19,546	20,286	18,128	18,723	18,281	20,964	18,841	18,853	21,486	20,769	23,656	17,103
Conecuh	35,603	38,525	3,414	3,531	3,442	3,284	2,990	2,746	3,143	3,091	2,635	3,439	2,954	3,143	2,793
Coosa	13,601	14,895	1,397	1,227	1,380	1,304	1,273	1,281	1,320	1,162	1,141	1,380	1,280	1,281	1,355
Covington	113,295	125,895	11,001	10,824	10,423	10,603	11,074	10,265	10,549	9,544	9,529	12,212	12,568	12,178	11,635
Crenshaw	27,786	31,640	2,911	2,553	2,645	2,375	2,683	2,710	2,793	2,284	2,227	3,125	2,978	3,574	3,276
Cullman	187,575	215,399	19,714	18,812	18,382	17,722	19,572	18,812	18,716	16,698	16,676	20,955	20,714	22,773	21,830
Dale	68,240	75,869	6,644	6,185	6,600	6,202	6,488	6,358	7,762	6,030	5,840	8,539	8,184	8,635	6,975
Dallas	175,594	194,607	17,163	16,282	16,425	16,114	16,994	15,839	18,316	15,144	15,001	18,773	17,757	18,909	17,958
DeKalb	130,363	147,697	13,532	12,411	13,080	13,329	13,358	12,446	13,041	11,175	10,625	13,584	12,875	14,195	13,190
Elmore	70,140	77,805	6,958	6,272	6,290	6,265	6,372	6,281	6,622	5,864	6,271	7,125	6,861	7,263	7,172
Escambia	127,926	142,384	12,040	11,807	12,631	11,360	12,739	12,208	13,546	10,617	10,485	12,551	11,890	12,598	12,561
Etowah	320,993	371,328	33,064	32,913	33,264	31,654	33,002	31,417	34,554	29,126	28,433	34,668	33,741	34,646	32,897
Fayette	78,218	89,529	8,573	7,208	7,492	7,113	7,576	7,748	8,821	6,583	6,396	8,011	8,129	9,403	8,514
Franklin	81,682	91,365	9,738	8,958	9,442	6,856	7,053	7,341	7,363	6,226	6,228	9,951	9,333	8,681	9,432
Geneva	90,583	99,129	8,622	7,688	8,917	9,252	8,225	7,897	8,785	7,684	7,897	9,324	9,630	10,112	8,960
Greene	15,674	19,818	1,732	1,587	1,577	1,619	1,697	1,492	1,644	1,193	1,348	1,772	1,576	2,020	1,734
Hale	27,512	30,557	2,904	2,418	2,762	2,601	2,526	2,521	2,740	2,334	2,343	2,881	3,168	2,925	2,805
Henry	38,414	43,841	3,876	3,538	4,039	3,657	3,744	3,558	4,092	3,514	3,258	4,277	4,133	4,128	3,948
Houston	380,869	429,803	37,894	34,008	35,229	34,920	39,220	36,377	40,442	34,542	35,034	38,328	35,511	38,190	36,287
Jackson	133,812	147,746	13,245	12,262	12,678	12,838	12,820	12,468	12,926	10,760	10,611	13,926	13,947	14,139	13,253
Jefferson	3,854,080	4,307,024	366,041	361,665	370,406	356,075	389,987	375,694	434,378	354,838	344,518	399,396	391,615	403,185	397,158
Lamar	25,669	30,047	2,860	2,497	2,536	2,316	2,722	2,703	2,840	2,361	2,268	2,876	2,876	3,174	2,960
Lauderdale	210,477	242,869	21,634	20,766	21,455	19,752	110,523	20,983	24,846	17,716	16,636	22,541	20,970	21,813	21,363
Lawrence	47,520	53,251	4,719	4,289	4,721	4,283	4,645	4,512	5,189	4,788	3,852	5,224	5,156	5,662	6,209
Lee	220,081	251,615	21,589	20,811	21,022	21,474	22,867	21,524	22,488	20,601	19,761	23,040	23,360	24,097	22,921
Limestone	111,708	128,949	11,521	11,478	11,462	10,264	11,602	11,100	11,262	9,245	9,052	11,874	11,977	12,979	11,565
Lowndes	18,696	21,844	1,778	1,887	1,743	2,006	2,112	1,731	2,469	1,718	1,658	1,969	1,916	2,079	2,104
Macon	38,802	43,409	4,014	3,538	3,646	4,001	3,847	3,472	3,572	3,719	3,260	4,024	3,764	3,910	3,767
Madison	650,561	712,693	61,316	60,668	64,228	57,876	62,615	61,299	66,144	52,838	52,704	65,220	63,239	66,390	59,616
Marengo	69,963	72,357	6,383	5,493	5,682	5,994	6,722	6,000	6,260	5,520	5,521	6,765	5,735	8,532	6,701
Marion	71,945	65,426	6,096	5,712	5,790	5,434	5,600	5,589	6,105	5,028	5,000	6,599	6,256	7,397	6,403
Marshall	245,626	268,585	24,396	23,624	23,601	21,674	23,905	22,581	24,587	20,911	20,632	25,492	23,497	26,369	23,802
Mobile	1,310,142	1,484,382	131,490	126,275	126,894	117,384	122,288	121,253	135,743	117,117	109,449	133,503	132,852	134,979	119,489
Monroe	99,183	156,798	14,181	11,597	11,979	11,761	12,761	11,897	11,979	8,141	8,584	10,405	8,961	9,250	6,699
Montgomery	880,001	1,033,750	90,750	86,159	92,675	86,566	90,425	88,184	96,000	74,637	80,613	93,651	89,064	93,950	92,290
Morgan	424,408	464,592	39,468	35,985	37,019	38,217	40,948	35,403	36,677	32,917	30,665	35,032	45,933	45,008	38,353
Perry	25,212	28,053	2,343	2,362	2,342	2,806	2,454	2,398	2,646	2,178	2,078	2,668	2,628	2,754	2,653
Pickens	42,799	47,704	4,226	3,965	3,932	3,884	4,161	4,226	4,303	3,265	3,575	4,485	4,013	4,776	4,843
Pike	78,968	89,389	7,459	7,528	7,428	7,473	7,734	7,271	8,172	6,594	6,162	8,005	8,210	8,849	7,572
Randolph	47,582	51,960	4,312	4,122	4,098	4,106	4,413	4,231	4,989	4,214	3,872	4,608	3,988	4,309	4,345
Russell	74,833	83,268	7,171	7,168	7,446	6,940	6,976	6,928	7,189	6,388	6,091	7,454	7,196	7,768	7,820
St. Clair	74,776	94,879	8,217	8,618	9,597	8,332	8,587	8,057	7,837	7,540	7,277	9,457	9,351	10,092	9,802
Shelby	198,671	231,350	20,932	20,795	21,678	18,557	20,947	20,840	19,431	18,584	18,488	21,776	20,365	23,756	18,751
Sumter	28,493	30,578	2,576	2,595	2,671	2,632	2,786	2,567	2,875	2,408	2,203	2,925	2,626	2,954	2,843
Talladega	167,255	184,561	16,231	15,395	16,749	15,507	16,007	15,060	17,621	14,901	14,290	17,672	16,447	17,994	16,477
Tallapoosa	107,804	116,459	10,416	9,578	10,026	9,492	10,331	9,030	10,266	8,444	8,159	10,329	9,500	10,198	10,305
Tuscaloosa	432,745	474,953	40,996	38,448	42,121	42,063	41,010	41,471	44,105	37,350	36,539	41,781	40,738	43,471	41,670
Walker	200,992	223,305	20,807	20,657	19,959	19,667	19,697	19,321	19,725	17,970	18,015	21,630	20,034	21,072	19,544
Washington	20,696	23,013	1,959	2,047	2,226	1,906	1,949	2,066	2,205	1,902	1,967	2,126	2,136	2,395	2,168
Wilcox	26,164	29,989	2,662	2,648	2,539	2,327	2,415	2,644	2,570	2,437	2,803	2,879	2,635	2,864	2,873
Winston	66,452	79,900	7,469	6,786	7,509	7,152	7,189	5,805	6,943	6,202	6,441	7,466	7,230	8,757	8,302
Statewide[1]	2,603,581	2,908,331	196,511	232,938	266,200	246,538	261,934	287,151	355,786	208,671	245,340	278,986	247,369	295,023	235,680
BUILDING ACTIVITY IN SELECTED ALABAMA CITIES[11]															
Anniston															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	12,201	10,003	671	821	808	1,779	367	915	465	794	1,122	551	793	840	1,195
Residential	3,641	5,366	314	346	524	1,194	221	587	273	186	268	412	84	378	238
Nonresidential	7,374	3,482	266	394	132	510	103	70	110	514	757	26	554	317	866
Birmingham															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	82,340	115,704	15,470	5,700	5,351	12,230	14,839	16,494	6,588	14,589	4,011	13,347	7,635	15,801	10,367
Residential	26,683	30,517	1,397	1,381	1,600	5,469	3,157	8,052	1,274	1,206	899	4,142	3,534	2,044	1,964
Nonresidential	23,658	38,577	9,655	395	572	1,885	7,381	2,342	1,468	3,426	860	1,907	1,157	3,186	839
Decatur															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	44,141	49,063	6,207	4,504	4,900	4,253	4,610	4,470	2,782	1,020	1,093	1,706	4,692	5,213	5,397
Residential	13,610	14,710	1,282	1,085	1,233	1,114	1,157	994	820	689	796	1,003	1,158	1,472	1,366
Nonresidential	29,259	32,950	4,759	3,290	3,513	3,010	3,312	3,361	1,880	145	211	691	3,386	3,574	3,860
Dothan															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	25,744	17,171	1,459	1,243	1,214	2,179	1,207	1,530	1,869	3,086	1,797	3,642	2,363	1,497	2,923
Residential	12,313	7,434	798	696	671	448	727	507	584	810	1,058	1,152	1,400	979	1,765
Nonresidential	10,847	7,194	408	307	379	1,496	155	778	1,100	2,031	550	2,263	696	203	808
Gadsden															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	23,217	16,498	1,358	678	6,720	976	706	2,325	282	699	1,306	651	2,064	1,091	1,101
Residential	4,349	5,904	465	135	1,752	197	299	2,149	36	188	122	190	1,515	564	559
Nonresidential	16,334	8,588	576	427	4,967	544	15	17	18	359	1,063	174	253	294	298
Huntsville															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	41,647	60,331	6,902	6,055	4,136	3,905	3,427	5,427	5,390	4,061	2,818	7,584	5,812	3,380	5,765
Residential	22,982	29,097	3,665	3,276	1,743	982	1,489	3,725	996	553	620	2,531	1,061	1,761	1,842
Nonresidential	12,740	25,497	2,667	2,453	1,887	2,436	985	1,384	4,089	2,916	1,593	4,398	3,739	1,224	3,545
Mobile															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	102,479	78,754	14,172	6,709	3,942	3,897	5,405	6,380	4,655	8,973	4,004	4,697	4,594	13,378	10,520
Residential	52,028	25,381	1,914	828	1,182	1,141	1,041	4,102	2,340	1,088	883	1,304	1,382	5,386	4,470
Nonresidential	40,244	41,272	10,741	4,680	1,833	1,786	3,188	1,128	1,612	7,318	2,256	2,334	2,082	6,522	4,864
Montgomery															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	80,309	88,523	6,492	4,541	5,081	17,405	5,562	4,252	3,643	6,544	9,011	8,686	6,324	11,112	14,798
Residential	36,563	42,252	4,173	2,123	2,718	2,391	2,855	2,039	2,813	1,898	3,049	5,498	4,981	5,844	10,046
Nonresidential	35,762	36,716	1,513	1,589	1,538	14,041	1,888	1,469	216	3,964	5,451	2,344	596	4,379	3,856

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1978							1979					
	1977	1978	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June
BUILDING ACTIVITY IN SELECTED ALABAMA CITIES —CONTINUED															
Quad-Cities[13]															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	34,845	34,412	4,171	1,850	3,922	2,525	2,841	1,140	1,148	842	1,832	2,754	3,342	2,855	2,146
Residential	17,430	16,330	1,204	899	1,562	981	1,933	602	739	530	930	2,379	2,267	1,787	1,216
Nonresidential	14,122	15,011	2,735	747	2,101	1,278	564	155	250	74	595	86	820	700	658
Selma															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	4,859	6,474	418	309	339	262	1,592	554	289	561	402	995	450	426	538
Residential	2,546	1,765	260	130	148	180	110	195	202	450	264	351	159	274	234
Nonresidential	1,075	3,296	8	80	.....	4	1,276	247	.....	43	.....	463	101	48	92
Tuscaloosa															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	38,714	29,257	1,640	1,560	2,738	3,627	3,611	1,605	1,006	1,145	1,777	2,726	1,214	2,065	2,737
Residential	25,828	16,549	1,128	838	1,894	908	1,124	769	441	813	1,097	1,565	791	1,453	2,221
Nonresidential	9,550	8,916	294	568	462	2,418	1,941	254	380	139	492	798	192	422	103

NOTE: A complete listing of data sources is available in the April 1977 issue of *Alabama Business*. Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding. For cement, coke, and crude oil, individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data. r Revised.
[1] Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data. [2] Alabama has more than 90% of total capacity in the four-state area. [3] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of F. W. Dodge Div., McGraw-Hill Information Co. [4] End-of-month balance.
[5] Beginning January 1978, the Consumer Price Index consists of "All Urban Consumers." Prior to that date, it included only "Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers." Historical data will not be available due to the change in coverage. No "Energy" data are available prior to 1978, and "Housing" data prior to January 1978 are not comparable to the new "Housing" series due to a change in definition.
[6] These data were previously presented as the "Wholesale Price Index." The new title more accurately reflects the coverage of the data.
[7] Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. Annual data are monthly averages. Data for the latest month are preliminary and will be revised in the following issue. All data are adjusted to March 1978 benchmark. **Labor force, total employment, and unemployment estimates prior to April 1978 are not comparable to subsequent estimates. Revised procedures have been incorporated which create a "break in series," since many of the new inputs are not available for earlier periods. The nonagricultural wage and salary employment series is not affected by these changes.**
[8] Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.
[9] Excludes sales to federal government. [10] These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R. L. Polk and Company.
[11] Retail sales data represent sales at retail as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the *Census of Retail Trade*. **Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figures for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters. Retail sales historical data prior to 1976 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual counties; it does not represent a state total.**
[12] Private construction only. May be partially estimated by the Bureau of the Census. [13] Quad-Cities consists of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia.

Energy "Hotline" Available to Alabamians

Energy conservation goes hand-in-hand with something very close to our hearts and wallets: money conservation.

The Alabama Energy Extension Service (AEES)—through its statewide, toll-free, energy "Hotline"—provides an opportunity to find out how to conserve both money and energy. The "Hotline" is available from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to offer personalized help on individual problems.

Tuscaloosans may use this free service by dialing 348-4523; Alabamians outside Tuscaloosa County may dial the toll-free number, 1-800-452-5901.

Sponsored by the Department of Energy, the "Hotline" has been established to help Alabama consumers reduce their utility bills by using the most energy efficient home heating and cooling equipment and alternate sources of energy such as wood. Everyone is urged to take advantage of this free service.

Qualified speakers are also available to interested groups, civic clubs, or businesses. These speakers present informal, illustrated talks designed to fit each group's interests. The service is free, and the AEES is now scheduling speakers for October 1979 through March 1980. To make your request for a speaker, contact Gayle Wells, Information Specialist, 1-800-452-5901.

Alabama Business is a monthly publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research of The University of Alabama College of Commerce and Business Administration. Articles reflect the opinions of the authors, but not necessarily those of the staff of the Center, the faculty of the College of Commerce and Business Administration, or the administrative officials of The University of Alabama.

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The Economy in Perspective:

The Importance of Economic Forecasts

According to both government and private analysts, we are now entering the long-anticipated 1979 recession. Real output is now estimated to be falling and is expected to continue falling through the remainder of the year. Unemployment is expected to rise by year-end.

The emergence of a recession at this time is consistent with historical business cycle trends. The composite index of 12 leading indicators, compiled by the U.S. Department of Commerce, reached a peak in October 1978. Since then, the trend of the composite index has been downward, except for minor fluctuations. This time-lag of nine months is about the same as that observed for the past three recessions.

For the past year, many economists have been forecasting a recession to begin about mid-year 1979. Present developments seem to vindicate those predictions. The accuracy of forecasting is not surprising. Economists' predictions are not hunches pulled out of thin air, but are careful analyses based on interpretation of objective data concerning investment, inventories, credit market conditions, consumer buying patterns, etc.

Among the general public, one can sometimes sense a feeling of distrust and hostility toward economic forecasts, especially when a recession is foreseen. To an extent, this feeling may be explained as the natural reaction of people to the bearer of bad news. In ancient times, it was occasionally the practice to execute the messenger who brought word of a battlefield defeat, as if such action would alter the facts.

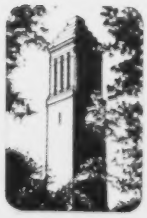
But the real objection to economic forecasts of recession goes deeper than emotional rejection. Sometimes people will say that economic forecasts are merely self-fulfilling prophesies. This is a serious issue, deserving of careful attention. It is based on an awareness of the importance of expectations as a force shaping economic behavior.

In the areas of construction, fixed capital investment, and inventory policy, expectations about the future rate of economic growth are important behavioral factors which affect present output and employment. If a decrease in aggregate demand is widely anticipated, it will lead to the adoption of conservative business policies which will contribute to the forecast reduction of aggregate demand. Fortunately, economic forecasts are seldom unanimous and are frequently discounted in the process of public opinion formation. These tendencies counteract the self-reinforcing aspects of economic forecasts.

While expectations are an important determinant of economic decisions, they are not the sole determinant. A fundamentally weak economy, with low productivity, foreign trade imbalances, etc., cannot be made to prosper solely by overly optimistic propaganda. Neither is it likely that a basically sound economy can be much harmed by unjustified cries of gloom and doom. Harm will be minimized if economic forecasters recognize an obligation to report the objective facts and avoid any tendancy toward sensationalism.

Economic forecasts are produced because they serve a valuable purpose. For government fiscal and monetary policymakers, the forecast of a developing recession is essential in order to trigger policy actions which may shorten or cushion the economic contraction. For private business also, such forecasts are immensely valuable. Foreknowledge of an impending recession enables the firm to take action to protect its financial integrity. By adjusting inventories, capital expenditure budgets, and cash positions, a firm may be able to ride out an economic contraction which otherwise might have bankrupted it. To the extent that forecasts enable businesses to retrench and survive periods of recession, society is spared the severe economic disruption of massive business failures and liquidity collapse at every downturn of the business cycle.

—**Ronald E. Bird**
Assistant Professor of Economics



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